





**TENNESSEE**  
**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**Division of Special Education**  
**5th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower**  
**710 James Robertson Parkway**  
**Nashville, Tennessee 37243**

**MEMORANDUM**

To:  Directors of Schools  
From:  Joseph E. Fisher, Assistant Commissioner  
Subject: 2003-2004 SY Sliver Grant Application  
Date: April 8, 2003

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Once again, we are pleased to announce the continuation of the Sliver Grant Awards for the school year 2003-2004. These funds are tied to the State Improvement Plan (SIP) and your Tennessee School Improvement Plan (TSIP). This money is to help your LEA support integrated systematic reform that focuses on improving results for children with disabilities. Your proposal should link student achievement to Tennessee's School Improvement Plan and focus student objectives on Tennessee Performance Goals and Standards.

The Sliver Grant application should focus on one or more of the following areas: Gateway testing/remediation, Early Childhood Intervention, Transition, Inclusion/LRE, Parent Involvement and decreasing the Drop-out rates/Increasing the Graduation rate to improve results for children with disabilities. We will look closely at your efforts to increase student achievement, improve instruction, show progress in test results in reading, language arts and mathematics overall, that will improve the educational outcome for children. Please enclose the completed "Sliver Grant Award Rating Sheet" with your application, to ensure all components have been addressed. Your application will be returned if all components are not complete.

The schools which have been identified for assistance by the Commissioner as "on notice" schools and the systems having Partnership Service Agreements (PSAs) are encouraged to utilize their Special Education Sliver Grant monies to prepare eligible students to meet high standards and make substantial progress in their education.

Sliver applications must be submitted to your Management Consultant by August 15, 2003 or postmarked no later than August 15, 2003. **FAXES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** NO applications for this money will be accepted after this date.

Please call your Management Consultant if you have any questions regarding this memo.

cc: Special Education Supervisors  
Nan McKerley  
Regional Resource Coordinators  
Management Consultants



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Division of Special Education  
5th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower  
710 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0380**

**2003 – 2004  
SLIVER GRANT  
APPLICATION**

**Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signatures:** \_\_\_\_\_

Director of Schools

Date

Special Education Supervisor

Date

**NOTE: APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER AUGUST 15, 2003.**

**LEAS WILL NOT BE AWARDED THIS MONEY UNTIL ALL 2002-03 SLIVER  
GRANT/SPECIAL PROJECTS EVALUATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.**

## SLIVER PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The “Sliver Grant” funds are tied to the State Improvement Plan (SIP) and your Tennessee School Improvement Plan (TSIP). This money is to help your LEA support integrated systematic reform that focuses on improving results for children with disabilities. Your proposal should link student achievement to Tennessee’s School Improvement plan and focus student objectives on Tennessee Performance Goals and Standards.

The Sliver Grant must be used to address improvement in the areas(s) of **Gateway testing/remediation, Early Childhood Intervention, Transition, Inclusion/LRE, Parent Involvement, Dropout Prevention/Increasing the Graduation rate**. The Sliver Grant will be used to improve results for children with disabilities through one or more of the following:

1. Direct services, including alternative programming for children who have been expelled from school, and services for children in correctional facilities and state operated schools;
2. Addressing needs or carrying out improvement strategies identified in the State Improvement Plan;
3. Adopting promising practices, materials, and technology, based on knowledge derived from education research and other sources;
4. Establishing, expanding, or implementing interagency agreements and arrangements between LEAs and other agencies or organizations concerning the provision of services to children with disabilities and their families; and
5. Increasing cooperative problem-solving between parents and school personnel and promoting the use of alternative dispute resolution.

### A. Introduction

Provide a brief statement explaining the purpose of this project. Please indicate which of the five services listed above will be used to improve results for children with disabilities.

### B. Overview

Description of LEA includes socio-economic/ethnic data, the total number of children in the system and the number of children with disabilities by disability.

### C. Statement of Need

The basis of your proposal should focus on the Areas of Need (Goals not met) in your TSIP that need to be addressed by schools within your system. This should include strengths and weaknesses.

### D. Project Narrative

- a. What area, or combination of areas, are you going to address in this proposal?
- b. What is (are) the objective(s)?
- c. What strategies will be utilized?
- d. What activities will be provided?
- e. Who will be involved? Parents? Community? Regular education personnel? Administrative staff?
- f. Who will benefit? Does your proposal show student involvement and learning?

### E. Evaluation

How will the Areas of Need be evaluated? What are the timelines? Does it address how systematic change is taking place to improve the results for children with disabilities through student achievement? Does the proposal show involvement with other funds or local resources to support professional development activities and/or student involvement and learning? Tennessee’s Performance Goals and Objectives?

### F. Budget

Please include a “budget page” that shows the amount requested along with **in-kind amounts**, and provide a narrative explaining expenditures.



## Sliver Grant Award Rating Sheet

*School System:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Rating:* Nt Accpt   Accpt   Exmpl  
*Amount: \$* \_\_\_\_\_ *Reviewer:* \_\_\_\_\_

① Face Page Included.   Yes ☐   No ☐

② Introduction includes a brief statement of purpose of project.   Yes ☐   No ☐

③ Check Service Area:

**Local Use   State Use**

_____	_____	Gateway testing/remediation
_____	_____	Early Childhood Intervention
_____	_____	Transition
_____	_____	Inclusion/LRE
_____	_____	Parent Involvement
_____	_____	Decreasing Dropout/ Increasing Graduation Rate

④ Utilized one or more of the following to achieve goals:

_____	_____	Direct Services (including alternative programming/services in correctional facilities and state schools
_____	_____	Strategies identified in the TSIP
_____	_____	Adopting promising practices, materials, and technology (based on education research)
_____	_____	Interagency agreements and arrangements between LEAs and others
_____	_____	Increasing cooperative problem-solving between parents and school personnel/promoting the use of alternative dispute resolution.

⑤ Included in overview:

_____	_____	Socio-economic/ethnic data
_____	_____	Total number of children in system
_____	_____	Number of children with disabilities by disability as it relates to proposal

⑥ Statement of Need includes:

_____	_____	Goals not met in TSIP
_____	_____	Includes strengths and weaknesses

⑦ Project narrative includes:

_____	_____	Area, or combination of areas, addressed in the proposal
_____	_____	Objective(s)
_____	_____	Strategies utilized
_____	_____	Activities provided
_____	_____	<b>Sliver Grant Award Rating Sheet – Page 2</b>

_____	_____	Involvement by ( ) parents, ( ) community, ( ) regular education personnel, administrative staff
_____	_____	Who will benefit; Proposal shows student involvement and learning

⑧ Included in Evaluation:

_____	_____	How Areas of Need will be evaluated
_____	_____	Timelines
_____	_____	How systematic change is taking place to improve results for children w/ disabilities through student achievement
_____	_____	Involvement with other funds or local resources

⑨ Budget:

_____	_____	Budget page with amount requested along with <b>in-kind amounts</b>
_____	_____	Narrative explaining expenditures